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**From:** "Boscaino, Vito" <Vito.Boscaino@Scotts.com>  
**To:** "'mpowell@fcc.gov'" <mpowell@fcc.gov>, "'kabernat@fcc.gov'" <kabernat@fcc.gov>, "'mccopps@fcc.gov'" <mccopps@fcc.gov>, "'kjmweb@fcc.gov'" <kjmweb@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/22/02 2:14PM  
**Subject:** Transferability of Cell Phone Numbers from one carrier to another

Gentleman:

I happened to come across the article below, while at a point when I am considering changing cell phone carriers as I am dissatisfied with my Sprint service, and with the technology supporting their network, and am evaluating the move to a GSM standard carrier.

However, one of the challenges I face is what the potential frictional cost of changing my number might be. I use my cell phone as my primary phone. While I do maintain a landline at my place of residence, I very rarely make or accept calls over it. Changing carriers will require me to change telephone numbers and this will create a tremendous administrative burden for me as I need to update both business and personal contacts with my new number. I will also need to change business cards and stationery which are incremental expenses and burdens that I would like not to have to incur. If the FCC is currently taking a position on the issue outlined in the article below, I would strongly encourage you to promote an environment whereby cell phone carriers would be required to make transferability of telephone numbers between carriers a mandatory option.

As a consumer, this would help level the playing field somewhat between the carriers and consumers, and provide me with one less variable to have to consider when examining my telecommunication options.

In my estimation, this issue will become even more critical as time goes on. If a change in policy is being contemplated, now is the time to advance this issue in a way that will provide meaningful benefit to the consumer.

Thanks for considering my point of view.

Respectfully,

Vito A. Boscaino  
614 571 9054  
vito.boscaino@scotts.com  
7289 Coventry Woods Drive  
Dublin, Ohio 43017

Can't Take It With You

By Mike Hogan

Entrepreneur magazine

<[http://www.entrepreneur.com/Magazines/MA\\_IssueArchive/0,1400,117411,00.html](http://www.entrepreneur.com/Magazines/MA_IssueArchive/0,1400,117411,00.html)

> - August 2002

<[http://www.entrepreneur.com/Magazines/MA\\_Issue/0,1388,301398-----,00.html](http://www.entrepreneur.com/Magazines/MA_Issue/0,1388,301398-----,00.html)>

If history is any measure, a third of you will change cell phone carriers this year and leave your numbers behind. More people would switch providers if it didn't mean changing business cards and notifying contacts, says Roger Entner, program manager of Yankee Group Wireless Mobile Services. Would you pay less than a dollar in monthly taxes to take your number with you as you do for landline portability?

Wireless carriers say they can't afford the billion-dollar database needed to forward calls to new providers. Consumer advocates say carriers are overestimating the cost of something they don't want to implement. "Carriers don't want to make it easier for customers to leave," Entner explains.

Rudy Baca, global and wireless analyst for the Precursor Group, predicts that unless it hears from phone users in the next few months, the FCC may

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side with carriers and push implementation to the end of 2003. If you want to be heard, Baca recommends dropping the FCC a line at [www.fcc.gov/contacts.html](http://www.fcc.gov/contacts.html) <<http://www.fcc.gov/contacts.html>>.

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**From:** "J Nazz" <guidemail@lvcm.com>  
**To:** <mcopps@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/27/02 1:08PM  
**Subject:** Cell Phone Number Forwarding

Dear Commissioner Copps,  
I would like to voice my opinion on cell phone number forwarding. The ONLY reason I don't change carriers is the fact that I can't forward my phone number to a new carrier. I would loose a lot of customers. Please vote to make the carriers to allow us to keep our Present numbers and clients Intact. Thank you,  
Respectfully,  
John

John Nazzaro  
Sales Manager  
Insider Viewpoint of Las Vegas  
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702-263-1905  
Guidemail@lvcm.com

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**From:** "Lisa Wilson" <lwilco@yahoo.com>  
**To:** <mcopps@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/27/02 12:38PM  
**Subject:** cell phone numbers

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Please consider that customers would like the option to keep their current cell phone number if they are switching carriers, just as they can with a land line.

From the small business standpoint, it is much more professional to maintain the same number even if you must switch carriers for service reasons.

Thank you,

Lisa

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Lisa A. Wilson  
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**From:** "Tom Scheer" <TScheer@PreferredPartnersInc.com>  
**To:** <mpowell@fcc.gov>, <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/27/02 11:54AM  
**Subject:** cell phone number portability

I believe it would be wonderful to have the ability to choose the most competitive wireless carrier without the hassle of changing printing information and contacting all individuals who need to reach me via cell phone. AT&T Wireless for example is offering fewer minutes and more restrictive hours for peak minutes currently. I would gladly pay \$1/mo to help the cost of creating a database to enable wireless number portability between carriers as was suggested in Entrepreneur magazine. Hopefully my vote will be heard. Many people whom I know and work with feel the same.

Thanks!

Tom Scheer  
Preferred Partners, Inc.  
214.528.0457 direct  
214.649.0896 mobile

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**From:** Sam Byrd <sbyrd@aristotle.net>  
**To:** <mpowell@fcc.gov>, <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/26/02 11:07PM  
**Subject:** Portability of Cell Phone Numbers

Dear Commissioners:

I would appreciate the ability to have cell phone numbers be as portable as land lines. The phone companies complain that "it's too complicated" and "its too expensive". The land line companies seem to manage to do it just fine.

Please, give us this capability, the phone companies don't want to give us the ability so we won't leave them.

Sincerely,

Sam Byrd  
Little Rock, AR

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**From:** "Adam Vitalis" <adamvitalis@earthlink.net>  
**To:** <mpowell@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/25/02 8:08AM  
**Subject:** Cell phone numbers

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I am writing in in reference to the below article.

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As cell phone service, costs and accessibility change very frequently, I would find it very helpful to be able to keep my number and change companies. I live in New York City, and the accessibility of service changes frequently. I would find it very helpful if I could use the company that has the best service in any given year without having to lose my number. Otherwise, it would be great if you would do a better job of forcing the companies to show service complaints and service availability. For example, AT&T is great in most cities except New York; my wife is going for her MBA at Columbia University and the service will not work there. Although they had the best service plans at the time, we were forced to switch to another courier as it was unusable in various areas in New York. It would be very helpful to either know what type of service one can expect (without losing a year to poor service) when choosing a company or to have the ability to switch companies without losing one's number in the attempt to find the most advantageous system.

Thank you for your time,

Adam Vitalis

ARTICLE:

If history is any measure, a third of you will change cell phone carriers this year and leave your numbers behind. More people would switch providers if it didn't mean changing business cards and notifying contacts, says Roger Entner, program manager of Yankee Group Wireless Mobile Services. Would you pay less than a dollar in monthly taxes to take your number with you as you do for landline portability?

Wireless carriers say they can't afford the billion-dollar database needed to forward calls to new providers. Consumer advocates say carriers are overestimating the cost of something they don't want to implement. "Carriers don't want to make it easier for customers to leave," Entner explains.

Rudy Baca, global and wireless analyst for the Precursor Group, predicts that unless it hears from phone users in the next few months, the FCC may side with carriers and push implementation to the end of 2003. If you want to be heard, Baca recommends dropping the FCC a line at [www.fcc.gov/contacts.html](http://www.fcc.gov/contacts.html).

**CC:** <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>

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**From:** "Rick Lehner" <rplehner@attbi.com>  
**To:** <mpowell@fcc.gov>, <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/25/02 3:59PM  
**Subject:** Cell Phone Portability

Dear Chairman Powell and Commissioners Abernathy, Copps and Martin,

I am writing to convey my strong support for implementing number portability in the U.S. cellular telephone market. At the present time my freedom to change carriers is dampened by the various costs involved with moving to a new number, including the cost of missed customer calls.

My present carrier is AT&T wireless. At my office the signal is bad enough that I cannot carry on a conversation. If I forward the cell phone to my office number, I am billed per-minute charges for the entire duration of the forwarded call. At the current \$0.40/minute, this quickly becomes prohibitive.

I have worked with AT&T to address this problem, but AT&T is unwilling to drop or discount the forwarding charges. Their recommendation was to change carriers!

Other carriers provide either good signal at my office or free forwarding. I happen to have chosen (in 1999) the carrier with neither.

Please hasten FCC plans to implement number portability.

Thank you and Best Regards,

Richard Lehner

R3M Corporation  
P.O. Box 871187  
Stone Mountain, GA 30087  
(770) 557-9027  
(770) 972-7543 fax  
www.r3mcorp.com

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**From:** Astrid CAMpos <astrid@IDCprint.com>  
**To:** mpowell <mpowell@fcc.gov>, kabernat <kabernat@fcc.gov>, mcopps <mcopps@fcc.gov>, kjmweb <kjmweb@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/25/02 8:25PM  
**Subject:** Transfer Cell Phone Numbers between carriers

Chairman:

Please do not delay implementation of wireless number transfer for cell phone users. Failure to force implementation immediately will only stifle competition and hurt the consumer. If a carrier does not have to allow a customer to take their number with them, then the carrier has no incentive to offer a competitively priced plan or adequate service as they know the expense in both time and money it will take the consumer to update all forms of communications and contacts with the new number.

Thanks in advance.

Astrid Campos  
Image Design Communications, LLC  
Cave Creek, AZ

602.677.2012

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**From:** "David & Laura Waun" <dwaun@erienet.net>  
**To:** <mpowell@fcc.gov>, <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/23/02 12:26PM  
**Subject:** Permanent Cell Phone Numbers

I would be very interested in paying for the right to keep the cell phone number I have. I am in a position where I can't change companies, because I need to keep my phone number the same.

If I had the right to change companies without changing my number, my phone company would provide me with better service and products to keep me as a customer.

I read the story in "Yahoo Small Business" on the Internet. Thank you for letting me give you my thoughts.....

David Waun  
(440)225-0900

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**From:** "Bob Chapman" <bobchap@cfl.rr.com>  
**To:** <mcopps@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/24/02 5:25AM  
**Subject:** Cell Phone Numbers

Dear Michael,

I believe it would be good for the industry if customers were able to take there cell phone number with them when they switched to another carrier. It would help to promote competition, instead of keeping one locked into one carrier. Then the carriers would not have the customer over the barrell, the customers would be free to switch to the best deal they could find, which is only following good business practices. If you can do it with a land line, you should be able to do it with a cell phone as well.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my view point.

Bob Chapman  
649 Sandpiper Circle  
Melbourne, Florida 32966  
321-649-7629

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**From:** Jennifer Taylor <jgtknowles@yahoo.com>  
**To:** <mpowell@fcc.gov>, <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/26/02 1:22PM  
**Subject:** Please make cell phone numbers transferable

To Whom it May Concern:

I feel like I am held hostage by my cell phone provider because my phone number is on many important documents which makes it extremely difficult for me to change to a different provider. I would change in a heart beat if I could take my number with me. Please consider making this a requirement.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Taylor

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**From:** Donnell Dantzler <dldantz@yahoo.com>  
**To:** <mpowell@fcc.gov>, <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/26/02 7:04PM  
**Subject:** Cell Phone Number Portability

Mr. Powell,

I am writing to ask that consumers of cell phone services be allowed to take their numbers with them as they change cell phone carriers. In this world of change it is essential to retain flexibility and ease as we operate from various places. Please side with the consumer to allow us to take our cell phone numbers to other providers as we try to manage costs during these challenging economic times. Many of our businesses risk survival if we are unable to manage expenses through a multitude of ways including our ability to seek the most economical telecommunications services package while making this change apparent to our customers solely through our better prices and service. Not by informing them that our business number has changed. (Concerned Small Business Owner)

Thank you for your time,

Donnell L. Dantzler

D. Dantz Productions (Music Entertainment Company)

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**From:** "lorenehs@gshmm.org" <lorenehs@gshmm.org>  
**To:** "'mpowell@fcc.gov'" <mpowell@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/27/02 11:06AM  
**Subject:** Cell phone number portability

I have heard that it may become a permanent rule that wireless phone service providers may refuse to allow customers to take their phone numbers with them when changing providers. This is a ripoff.

When phone deregulation came about, it was supposed to open up competition to lower costs. Now the providers are trying to piecemeal a new form of regulation where only the providers have any rights.

Please do not allow providers, "the PHONE COMPANY", to reinstitute monopolistic practices to support inflated prices.

It's much easier for a phone number to be changed in a switching database, than it is for users to change their number with everyone they have ever given it to, not to mention printing costs.

On that last note about printing, you might want to consider that throwing out old documents and business cards, and buying new ones, creates unnecessary environmental pollution. You may consider that to be the USEPA's problem, but I believe you should all be working together.

Sincerely,  
Loren Paul  
Ballwin, MO

**CC:** "'kjmweb@fcc.gov'" <kjmweb@fcc.gov>, "'mcopps@fcc.gov'" <mcopps@fcc.gov>, "'kabernat@fcc.gov'" <kabernat@fcc.gov>

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**From:** "Mark Venditti" <markvenditti@covad.net>  
**To:** <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mpowell@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/21/02 3:59AM  
**Subject:** Cell phone number switch and delaying this implementation

I am emailing in response to an article I read at Entrepreneur.com

Cell phone companies have been handcuffing the public for years now with the inability to take your number with you when switching carriers, and as such restricting the true choice of a consumer to freely choose a product/vendor without sacrifices.

Never mind the locking in and penalties associated with contracts.

I have personally switched vendors 4 times, and each time had to spend several hundred dollars in notifying clients, personal friends and families of my phone change, as well as having issues when someone calls my old number and getting a different person.

Carriers don't even wait 2 months in assigning the old number to a new customer.

Delaying this implementation is crazy and I personally would pay for this service, either to a provider or through taxes to make sure my free choice can be salvaged!

In addition, it is well known the area code issues in Illinois, due to the "buying up of numbers" by cell phone carries, when this all could be alleviated by letting the consumer take their number with them.

Thank you for hearing my comments.

Mark Venditti  
Chicago, IL  
Office 847-757-1607  
Email: markvenditti@covad.net

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**From:** "Sunit Sanghrajka" <sunit@bigfive.com>  
**To:** <mpowell@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 8/21/02 9:35AM  
**Subject:** cell phone numbers

I have cell phone for business use. It is critical to my business. Right now a carrier can hold me "hostage". If I do not like their service or I encounter poor reception, it is not easy to switch carriers because the number is not portable. The carrier owns the number and if I switch carriers I have to change my number. This is a tremendous cost to my business, both in time and money. We need to have a choice of carriers as we do with a land line, and not have to put up with substandard service.

I do hope you hold the current wireless providers more accountable and not allow them to hold customers hostage.

Thank You for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Sunit Sanghrajka

**CC:** <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>

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